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INFORMATION REPORT

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Country: El Salvador

DATE MAY 4 MAY 51

SUBJECT Argentine Influence on Salvadoran Labor Matters

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. President Oscar Osorio has been approached by a representative of the Argentine Embassy in San Salvador, concerning support of a program of indoctrination in Argentina of a select group of Salvadoran individuals interested in labor organization. President Osorio is reported to be giving the proposal serious consideration, and tentative plans have been established to carry out the activity. The President will choose the candidates personally and he has established the following prerequisites as minimum requirements for prospective participants: a college degree or education in business administration, actual experience as an office holder in a labor syndicate, and proof of anti-Communist sympathies. At this time it is proposed that about ten Salvadorans be sent to Argentina to receive this training.
2. In the past two years, two Salvadoran members of the Union de Trabajadores Ferrocarrileros (UTF) travelled to Buenos Aires to receive specialized training in labor organization at the invitation of the Argentine Government. These were Carlos Alex Gomez, who went in late 1949, and Julio Lemus, who was accorded the same opportunity in October 1950. Upon their return from Argentina, both Gomez and Lemus allied themselves with the Communist-dominated faction in the UTF. On 9 March 1951, these two, along with other Communist and rightist elements, were expelled from El Salvador for alleged plotting against the government.

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